

Letter of Intent [2-8-403]

BUSINESS & LABOR
EXHIBIT NO. 2
DATE 1-14-11
BILL NO. SB101

2.a. Licensing will eliminate any untrained and unqualified practitioners from providing services to the public. The benefits to the public would be individuals who have met and passed licensing examinations testing their abilities to provide the appropriate oral care and treatment. To provide unregulated practice would allow any practitioner, regardless of education in the physiologic and biologic sciences, to render service at large to the public without the ability to recognize and refer anomalies and to recognize health conditions that should be referred to another appropriate health care provider.

b. A denturist has the autonomy to practice in a single setting and is educationally based and required to refer a patient to another health care provider when such a referral is in the best interest of the patient.

c. The scope of practice of the denturist practitioner is commensurate with the education, training, and experience obtained from a school or college of denturistry approved by the Board.

d. The overlap of denturistry lies with dentistry as both professions can provide denture related services.

e. There are no degrees in which licensing would restrict or inhibit entry into the practice of denturistry other than the health, safety, welfare, and common good.

f. Graduation from an approved school or college of denturistry of not less than 2 years and recognized by the Board.

g. The candidate must be a person of good moral character, and have graduated from a school or college of denturistry approved by the Board and passed Parts I & II of the National Board of Denturistry

h. There are no exceptions.

i. Oregon, Arizona, Idaho, Maine, and Washington.

j. There are no other regulatory alternatives for this profession.

k. From 1985 – 1987 there existed a Montana Board of Denturistry. That board was merged with the Board of Dentistry and has existed in that domain ever since. Dentistry is an adversarial competitor and is restricting the denturist practitioners services by imposing self-serving “board rules”.

3.a. 16 – 20 from Montana and 35 additional anticipated.

b. 6 individuals; 4 licensed and practicing denturists and 2 lay people, 1 being a senior citizen.

c. We do not have this information available at this time.

2-8-402. Intent to create new board. (1) A bill draft request to create a licensing board must include a letter of intent not exceeding 1,000 words that addresses the criteria in subsections (2) and (3).

(2) The letter of intent must contain the following descriptions:

(a) how licensing would protect and benefit the public and, in particular, how the unregulated practice of the profession or occupation would pose a hazard to public health, safety, or welfare or the common good;

(b) the extent of practitioners' autonomy, as indicated by the degree of independent judgment that a practitioner may exercise or the extent of skill or experience required in making the independent judgment;

(c) the distinguishable scope of practice;

(d) the overlap or shared practices with an existing, licensed profession or occupation;

(e) the degree, if any, to which licensing would restrict entry into the profession or occupation for reasons other than public health, safety, or welfare or the common good;

(f) the specialized skills or training required for the profession or occupation;

(g) the proposed qualifications for licensure;

(h) whether a licensure exception would be provided to existing practitioners and whether those eligible for the exception would be required to meet proposed qualifications at a certain time;

(i) a list of other states that license the profession or occupation;

(j) regulatory alternatives other than licensing that are available to the practitioners of the profession or occupation; and

(k) previous efforts, if any, to regulate the profession or occupation.

(3) In order to help in the determination of licensing costs, the letter of intent must contain a good faith effort to provide answers to the following questions:

(a) how many licensees are anticipated, including the number of practitioners in Montana;

(b) what is the proposed makeup of the licensing board; and

(c) what are the projected annual licensing fees based on information from the department of labor and industry for all costs associated with a board of the projected size.

(4) After receiving a copy of the responses to subsections (2), (3)(a), and (3)(b), the department of labor and industry shall assist those developing the letter of intent under 2-8-403 or this section with the responses to subsection (3)(c) of this section.

(5) For the purposes of this section, a letter of intent is a public record.

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